

HQ U.S. Army Installation Management Agency, Europe Region



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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 29, 2005

ROUND 37 IMPACT ON IMA-EUROPE GARRISONS

Heidelberg, GE – In conjunction with the Department of Defense announcement today on the 2006 return to CONUS of the 1st Infantry Division and the closing of installations no longer required to support the USAREUR mission, the Installation Management Agency – Europe Region announced it will discontinue the U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Franconia, which supports those installations.

Last year, as part of Army transformation, IMA-Europe was directed to organize all Area Support Groups (ASGs) and Base Support Battalions (BSBs) into U.S. Army garrisons in accordance with the Standard Garrison Organization (SGO). As a result, the 98th ASG and 417th BSB are merging operationally into a single organization in anticipation of their reorganization as USAG Franconia on Oct 1, 2005.

Installation Management Agency Headquarters has now directed IMA-Europe to discontinue USAG Franconia on or about Sep 30, 2006.

The DOD announcement cited specific installations in the communities of Wuerzburg, Kitzingen, and Giebelstadt scheduled for return to the host nation as a result of the return of the 1ID in Fiscal Year (FY) 2006. All installations except for Leighton Barracks and Wuerzburg Hospital will be returned to the host nation as soon as possible after the return of the 1ID. Leighton Barracks and Wuerzburg Hospital will remain open as long as needed to support the neighboring military communities.

Upon discontinuance of USAG Franconia, garrisons currently assigned to USAG Franconia (Schweinfurt, Bamberg, and Ansbach) will be reassigned to the Installation Management Agency, Europe Region Office. Base support responsibility for Leighton Barracks and Wuerzburg Hospital will be assigned to USAG Schweinfurt.

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Discontinuance of USAG Franconia will be event driven and is dependent upon the return of installations to the German government, which is in turn dependent upon the successful inactivation, redeployment, and/or relocation of IID and other tenant units.

IMA-Europe officials will continue to work closely with their USAREUR counterparts to ensure a smooth transition for Soldiers and their families. IMA-Europe remains committed to continuing to provide quality service at all installations and treating their employees with dignity and respect as the workforce is adjusted to meet the end-state service requirements.

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The U.S. Army Installation Management Agency, Europe (IMA-E) is one of seven regional offices created Oct. 1, 2002, as part of an Army-wide initiative to focus management of Army installations around the world under one organization. IMA-E is responsible for all facets of support for U.S. Army Soldiers and families in Europe from driver's licenses to child care to force protection. As the landlord for all U.S. Army facilities in Europe, IMA-E is responsible for infrastructure and continuing the Army's strong commitment to environmental protection. Its higher headquarters is located in Arlington, Va.